OCTOBER 3, 1766.

THE

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VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

With the lateſt Advices, Foreign and Domeſtick.

St. James's *in* Fredericksburg, *Sept.* 14, 1766.

Mr. PRINTER,

I AM but now returned from an agreeable receſs beyond the limits of your preſs, and am greatly ſurpriſed to find mankind ſo loſt to ſhame as to proſtitute their conſciences in ſupport of ſo arrant a hypocrite as the Weſtmoreland Colonel. Hypocriſy is a vice of ſo dangerous a nature that the more honeſt the man the more he is ſubject to its baleful influence.

" For neither man nor angel can diſcern
" HYPOCRISY, the only evil that walks
" Inviſible, except to God alone,
" By his permiſſive will, thro' heaven and earth;
" And oft, tho' Wiſdom wake, Suſpicion ſleeps
" At Wiſdom's gate, and to Simplicity
" Reſigns her charge, while Goodneſs thinks no ill
" Where no ill ſeems—— MILTON.

And therefore, when ſo many writers attempt to ſupport a Proteus, the very Colonel of Hypocrites, good men ought to be alarmed, and ſuſpect in each he ſees another Proteus, leſt through his goodneſs he ſhould become an eaſy prey to ſo damned an animal.

I am led into theſe obſervations from a tranſaction not long paſt, I mean a number of worthy Gentlemen who aſſembled to ſecure the rights and privileges of their native country from an infringement, which, though not very alarming, yet they would not omit ſhowing their abhorrence of; and, " as goodneſs thinks no ill where no ill ſeems," they permitted R. H. Lee, a perſon by far the moſt culpable in Virginia (I believe I may add the continent) to aſſume the Generalſhip over them, and make them (though his ſuperiours in point of fortune and honeſty) mere ſteps to raiſe him up to popularity. To prove this was his ſole motive, I beg leave to refer to his after-game, which when compared with his ſcandalous forgery at Weſtmoreland court-houſe, and many circumſtances prior to them, will appear uniform, and prove that his intentions were but ſelfiſh, and not for the good of his country; for though his ſupercilious and tyrannical meaſures were over-ruled by a majority in a Committee at Leeds town, and notwithſtanding Mr. R—— complied with every point agreed to by that Committee, by which all poſſible danger to the publick was prevented, yet ſeveral gazettes, both Maryland and Virginia, inform us what Mr. Lee propoſed, and his itinerant relations tell every company what their hero did on that occaſion, and that to him alone the publick is indebted for that important ſervice. I hope, by what is here ſaid, that there is not the leaſt appearance of a reflection on the Gentlemen who were aſſiſting in the affair here mentioned. If there is, believe me, my dear countrymen, I intend it not; and therefore hope you will not impute it. I am really ſorry that juſtice to my country obliges me to mention it as evidence againſt the perſon I deſign it. My approbation of that meaſure (upon the plan you intended it, Gentlemen) muſt appear from my acceding to the terms of the aſſociation, by ſubſcribing them ſo ſoon as I ſaw them; and my uniform conduct with regard to the Stamp Act muſt convince every one (even Richard Henry Lee himſelf) that it had no friend in me, and that I now condemn the hero of this paper purely becauſe the part he acted was influenced by ſelf, and not publick intereſt. Liberty is ſo ſublime a paſſion that it often exceeds its limits with its moſt cautious champions, and the ſame actions that will reflect honour upon the performer when actuated by the good of his country, ought to damn him when influenced by pride and ambition.

That R. H. Lee's conduct relative to the Stamp Act proves him wholly influenced by pride and ambition, and highly meriting publick diſapprobation, if no more, I do not deſire the publick to believe on my ſay-ſo, but ſhall readily agree to leave every reader to determine for himſelf; all that I expect is that they will diveſt themſelves of prejudice againſt me, and not think me ſo partial as to utter a falſehood (than which I deſpiſe nothing more) becauſe I am equally anxious to do do juſtice to the character of an abſent brother, who has been infamouſly traduced by a man who now appears not worth credit. If I know myſelf, I can with truth ſay that I ſhould have publiſhed his conduct to the world though any other than my brother had been the ſubject of his anonymous ſorgery and ſcurrility; for if this hero has prevailed in the art of deceiving ſo far as to acquire a valuable horſe, and perhaps more of his neighbours property, without a valuable conſideration, or what the law calls *quid pro quo*, ſurely the perſon that endeavours to ſtop this abuſe does not deſerve publick cenſure. Such a perſon may contribute to the publick good notwithſtanding he may rejoice in the diſcovery, and opportunity of doing juſtice to an abſent brother, who has always been deemed a favourite of the publick; nor can I think any judicious perſon will blame me for attempting to reverſe a judgment founded on perjury; no leſs ſurely ought I to call the dying ſpeech, the performance of R. H. Lee; for an honeſt man will not ſay any thing that he will not ſwear to; and I am ſure, had the ſame facts been ſworn to before a tribunal having juriſdiction, I could legally have got the author's ears condemned; indeed, had I known him in due time, I would have attempted it by force of arm; but now I hope I ſhall reap a more eligible repriſal, and ſuch as is agreeable to the laws of God and man. *Lex talionis* is of higher authority than human law, and the vengeance denounced againſt whomſoever ſhould ſlay Cain, whom the Almighty preſerved from death to perpetuate his torments, determines me not to attempt to ſhorten this Proteus's life.

I ſhall now, without further digreſſion, proceed, and lay before the publick the evidence I have to ſupport the charge againſt this inimitable Proteus, which I ſet forth in my former publication. I knew it then, but was willing to rap a little at his conſcience to ſee if it was loſt beyond reclaiming; and alas! I find it ſo callous that I deſpair of effecting it by this: For, inſtead of confeſſing or denying the charge, he adds to his guilt, totally diſregards the merits of his demerits, and tells us that it is the portion of HUMANITY to err; from which I preſume he confines that denomination to his dear ſelf, and totally excludes Col. Mercer from any ſhare. However, as this Gentleman's publication has ſo much *ſophiſtry* in it (a qualification peculiar to every Proteus, and ſo much admired by his ſcurrilous aſſiſtants, who poſſeſs as little of it as myſelf) it will be neceſſary to trouble the publick with a ſecond edition, that the whole may appear at one view.

" Early in November 1764 I was for the firſt time informed by a Gentleman of the intention of Parliament to lay a Stamp Duty in America, with a friendly propoſition on his part to uſe his intereſt for procuring me the office of Collector; I call it friendly, becauſe I believe the Gentleman, no more than myſelf, nor perhaps a ſingle perſon in the country, had at that time reflected in the leaſt on the nature and tendency of ſuch an act. Conſidering this only in the light of a beneficial employment, I agreed the Gentleman ſhould write, and did alſo write myſelf, incloſing my letter to a Gentleman now in the country. It was but a few days after my letters were ſent away that, reflecting ſeriouſly on the nature of the application I had made, the impropriety of an American being concerned in ſuch an affair, ſtruck me in the ſtrongeſt manner, and produced a fixed determination to exert every faculty I poſſeſſed, both in publick and private life, to prevent the ſucceſs of a meaſure I now diſcovered to be in the higheſt degree pernicious to my country. I conſidered that to err is certainly the portion of humanity, but that it was the buſineſs of an honeſt man to recede from error as ſoon as he diſcovered it; and that the ſtrongeſt principle of duty called upon every citizen to prevent the ruin of his country, without being reſtrained by any conſiderations, that ſhould interrupt this primary obligation. But it did not appear to me that a promulgation of my application was neceſſary, as I conceived my actions would be the cleareſt proof of the rectitude of my intentions. That ſuch was the conduct held by me in publick I deſire not to be credited on my bare aſſertion, but with confidence appeal to the many worthy Gentlemen with whom I had the honour to ſerve in General Aſſembly. They know who firſt moved in the Houſe of Burgeſſes for the addreſs to his Majeſty, for the memorial to the Houſe of Lords, and remonſtrance to the Houſe of Commons. They alſo know what part I took in preparing theſe. For my uniform opinion and conduct in private life, I ſafely refer to all thoſe with whom I have the pleaſure of an acquaintance. Such being my principles, and ſuch my actions, long, very long, before my application could poſſibly reach Great Britain, before the act paſſed, and therefore before the appointment of any Diſtributor, I leave the impartial reader to determine with what truth and propriety it has been aſſerted that my ſentiments of the act were not diſcovered until I was certain of being diſappointed.

" But as a further confirmation, if a further is neceſſary, of my early formed determination to depart from the application I had made, no duplicates of my letters were ever ſent; and by their not arriving until many months after the appointment of a Diſtributor was made, and the execution of the Stamp Act was prevented in America, no meaſures were taken by my friends in conſequence of any thing I had written.

" From this ſtate of the caſe, as exactly related as my memory can ſerve to recollect the circumſtances of a tranſaction now above twenty months ſtanding, it will appear to every conſiderate and candid perſon that my proceeding amounts to nothing more than the making a haſty application, the impropriety of which was preſently diſcovered, and a conſtant tenour of conduct purſued that operated (as far as my power could make it) to prevent my ſucceſs in a point I am very untruly ſuppoſed to have wiſhed for, until I found myſelf diſappointed. This much I have judged it neceſſary to ſay in juſtice to my character, and to ſay more would be trifling with the publick.

RICHARD HENRY LEE."

Indeed, Mr. Printer, the diction of this performance, and the grammar, are both very good, but alas! truth, a more neceſſary ingredient, is totally diſregarded. But, leſt I ſhould be thought to be taking from your readers the liberty of judging for themſelves, I ſhall immediately proceed to lay the evidence before them, and begin with what Mr. Robert Brent ſays on this ſubject, which is this:

" That he gave Col. Thomas Lee a paſſage to and from " the Aſſembly in 1763, in his chair. They arrived in " Williamſburg about the 1ſt of October, or firſt of " November, and ſtayed about a fortnight; but ſome time " before their departure Mr. Brent miſſed his uſual compa- " pany Col. Thomas, R. H. and Francis Lee, with whom " he generally ſpent his evenings. Upon inquiry, Mr. " Brent underſtood they were in private with his Honour " Col. Corbin. Upon the return, Mr. Brent mentioning " ſomething concerning this conference, Col. Thomas " told him that his brother Dick (the ſame R. H. Lee " herein aforementioned) had a good intereſt at home; " that his Honour Col. Corbin likewiſe had a great intereſt, " which he promiſed to his brother Dick; that brother " Dick had heretofore applied for ſeveral places at home, " but his applications were always too late; but that " brother Dick hearing that there were to be ſeveral Stamp " Duties raiſed in America, he ſuppoſed there would be " a good many places to be diſpoſed of at home; that as " he had hitherto been too late, he intended to have wrote " immediately, before the law ſhould have paſſed, that " he might be in time; but that he waited until brother " Frank and himſelf (Col. Thomas) ſhould come to town, " that he might have their advice on the occaſion; and " that the night Mr. Brent miſſed them they were conſulting with his Honour Col. Corbin on that ſubject. " Mr. Brent aſked what his brother Richard intended to " do? Col. Thomas anſwered that his brother Frank " and himſelf had adviſed him not to be concerned in ſuch " an office, for that they did not ſuppoſe it profitable; " and beſides, it would be very diſagreeable to the people " of Virginia." This intelligence I had from Mr. Robert Brent, a Gentleman of undoubted veracity. But to anticipate any exception againſt Mr. Brent or myſelf for publiſhing this converſation, which ſeems to be of a private nature, it is my duty to give the publick the circumſtances attending this diſcovery.

In October 1765 there was a publick report that his Honour Col. Corbin had ſolicited for the office of Diſtributor of Stamps for Virginia, and that being queſtioned on that ſubject, his Honour had acknowledged that he had ſolicited it, though not for himſelf, but for his friend. Upon this, ſome conſidering the connexions and friendſhip between his Honour and this enterpriſing genius, R. H. Lee, named him as his Honour's friend; and the flame was near breaking out on him, until his relations contradicted it. And it was generally reported that R. H. Lee himſelf not only denied his ſoliciting for the office, but boaſted he had rejected it with ſcorn, though offered to him by his Honour Col. C——; and in particular three Gentlemen from Spotſylvania, who accompanied others to viſit Mr. R——, ſay that this report was ſtirred at Leeds town when they were going to Mr. R——'s, and it was generally ſaid that Mr. John Monroe of Weſtmoreland had then taxed R. H. Lee with it, and that he ſaid it was true that his Honour Col. Corbin had offered him the commiſſion, but that he had rejected it with contempt. And his brother Col. Thomas Lee has not only denied it, but did ſo inceſſantly for eight months, and even ſo late as July laſt; and I think it ſcarce preſumable that he could do it ſo long, without R. H. Lee's knowledge or conſent. But be this as it may, it was certainly a ſubject that was often canvaſſed, and Mr. Brent, as a friend to R. H. Lee, always took his part, and contradicted the report as from his own knowledge. But in July laſt, after Col. Mercer had wrote word, purporting a diſcovery of R. H. Lee's letters ſoliciting the office, and after Col. Lee had confeſſed it in the terms I publiſhed in July laſt, which I ſhowed to a large company in Dumfries, in which Mr. Brent was, Mr. Brent ſeemed very uneaſy, and in order to juſtify his former conduct concerning Mr. Lee, mentioned the foregoing converſation between Col. Thomas and himſelf.

But to return. During the October General Court in 1764 there were ſeveral letters received from England, which ſeemed to import an abſolute certainty of the Britiſh Parliament's intending to impoſe Stamp Duties in America, if no worſe; which threw moſt people into a violent flame. And before the meeting of the Aſſembly, which was on the 30th day of October, after the late Speaker came to town, and brought with him a letter from a Committee of the Houſe of Repreſentatives of the province of the Maſſachuſetts Bay, which he had received ſome conſiderable time before, addreſſed to him as Speaker of the Houſe of Burgeſſes of Virginia; this letter adviſed the Aſſembly that the Britiſh Houſe of Commons, in a Committee of the whole Houſe, had voted that certain Stamp Duties ought to be impoſed within America; that the bill for carrying the votes into a law was poſtponed until the next meeting of Parliament; that their General Court had drawn up a remonſtrance againſt the authority of Parliament, and that the Gentlemen who ſubſcribed that letter were appointed a Committee, during the receſs of the Repreſentatives of that province, to correſpond with the ſeveral Legiſlatures on the continent, to deſire them to join in ſo neceſſary a ſtep. Beſides this, a letter was received by our Committee of Correſpondence, I need not ſay from whom, as its ſubject will ſhow it; this letter covered the votes of the Houſe of Commons (mentioned in that from the Committee of the Repreſentatives of the province of the Maſſachuſetts Bay) which conſiſted of above 18 reſolves, but on this occaſion the 15th, and the paragraph relating thereto, is all I think material, which though long I ſhall recite, for fear of ſome lurking blunderer's future abuſe.

London, April 11, 1764.

" Gentlemen,

" *The 15th resolution is the most alarming to the colonies.* The Chancellor of the Exchequer had determined this measure should take place, but I informed you in my last of the check we gave to its progress (the last was the 9th of March.) Mr. G———, after declaring it was far from his intentions to force any measure without hearing every objection, put the House in mind that the national debt amounted to 146,000,000, so alarming a circumstance that great attention was due to the revenue; that America gave birth to the last war, which cost us 74,000,000. He stated the annual expense of America in time of peace at 350,000 l. a sum the several colonies are capable of relieving us from; but the duties proposed would be insufficient, without the addition of Stamp taxes, which he thought might be raised without any great burthen to the subjects, and collected with fewer officers. But though he readily acquiesced in postponing this point, yet hoped that the power and sovereignty of Parliament, over every part of the British dominions, for the purpose of raising or collecting any tax, would never be disputed. That if there was a single man doubted it he would take the sense of the House, having heard without doors hints of this nature dropped. He then called for the sense of Parliament, and that the House might not suffer objections of that nature at a future day. The Members interested in the plantations expressed great surprise that a doubt of that nature could ever exist. Mr. G——— then suggested that this great object, being the relief of this kingdom from the burthen which in justice America should bear, it would be as satisfactory to him if the several provinces would among themselves, and in modes best suited to their circumstances, raise a sum adequate to the expense of their defence. This, to the best of recollection, was all that materially fell from him on this subject; AND IT APPEARS TO ME OF THE FIRST IMPORTANCE TO THE COLONIES. The House appeared so unanimous in opinion that America should ease the revenue of this annual expense that I am persuaded they will not listen to any remonstrance against it *(but the introduction of inland taxes is a matter of the first impression and moment to the subjects there.)* What steps the respective provinces will fall on must be left to their better judgment; I shall only presume to add what appears the determined sense of Government, that this money be furnished by America by some means or other; pleas of incapacity will scarce avail, and therefore I SHOULD CONCEIVE IT WOULD BE EXTREME WORTHY OF YOUR SERIOUS ATTENTION WHAT MAY BE THE CONSEQUENCE OF INTRODUCING SUCH A PRECEDENT AS THE IMPOSITION OF A STAMP TAX BY A BRITISH PARLIAMENT."

These two letters, not to mention many from other sensible correspondents on the other side of the Atlantick, were read by many of the House of Burgesses before they met, and by many others after the meeting. In short, I can say with great certainty that the whole House was in a flame before they met, and every thing that could be done by them was determined to be pursued so soon as the Governour should be addressed, and the first forms of the House be got through. This was not only intended, but actually done; but who was the first mover I know not. Agreeable to a standing rule, such letters were to be laid before the House; and accordingly I find on their journals the following minutes, which I beg leave to insert.

" THURSDAY, November 1st.

" Mr. Speaker laid before the House a letter which he received in July last, from a Committee appointed by the Hon. House of Representatives of the Massachusetts Bay, relative to the late act of Parliament concerning the sugar trade with the foreign colonies, &c. and the said letter was read, and ordered to lie on the table."

From a resolve hereafter mentioned, it will appear that the &c. related to the votes of the House of Commons relative to the Stamp Duties.

" Wednesday, November 7th. Ordered, that the Committee appointed to correspond with the Agent of this colony in Great Britain, &c. do lay the Agent's letters received since the meeting of the last session of Assembly, and their answers thereto, before the House.

" Mr. Attorney from the Committee of Correspondence, according to order, laid before the House the Agent's letters, together with their answers.

" Ordered, that the said letters and answers do lie on the table."

The Governour being addressed, and the first forms of the House being now got through, on

" Tuesday, November 13th, on a motion made, resolved, that this House will resolve itself into a Committee to consider the state of the colony.

" Ordered, that the several letters to and from the Agent, with the letter addressed to the Speaker from the Committee for the Massachusetts Government, which were ordered to lie on the table, be referred to the same Committee

" The House immediately resolved itself into the said Committee, pursuant to the above mentioned resolution of the House; and after some time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr. Attorney reported that the Committee had had that matter under their consideration, and had come to several resolutions thereon.

" Ordered, that the same be reported to the House to-morrow.

" Wednesday, November 14th. Mr. Attorney, from the Committee of the whole House, reported, according to order, that the Committee had had under their consideration the state of the colony, and the several letters to them referred, and had come to several resolutions thereon; which he read in his place, and then delivered in at the table, where they were again twice read, and agreed to with some amendments, and are as follow:

" Resolved, that a most humble and dutiful address be presented to his Majesty, imploring his Royal protection of his faithful subjects the people of this colony in the enjoyment of all their natural and civil rights as men and as descendents of Britons, which rights must be violated if laws respecting the internal government and taxation of themselves are imposed upon them by any other power than that derived from their own consent, by and with the approbation of their Sovereign or his Substitute, &c. &c.

" Resolved, that a memorial be prepared to be laid before the Right Honourable the Lords, &c.

" Resolved, that a memorial be prepared to be laid before the Honourable the House of Commons, &c."

I have recited more of the address than memorials, in order to show that the House thought it very essential to the preservation of their rights and privileges to be wholly exempt from the authority of Parliament as to every species of internal taxation, without criticising on the " nature and tendency of the act," as Col. Lee did! And I intend the following resolve, to show the subject of the Massachusetts letter.

" Resolved, that the Committee appointed to correspond with the Agent of this colony in Great Britain, &c. be directed to answer the letter of the 25th of June last, from the Committee of the House of Representatives for the province of the Massachusetts Bay, to the Hon. the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the province of Virginia; and to assure that Committee that the Assembly of Virginia (methinks R. H. Lee ought to have been excepted) are highly sensible of the very great importance it is, as well to the colony of Virginia as to America in general, that the subjects of Great Britain in this part of its dominion should continue in possession of their ancient and most valuable right of being taxed only by consent of their Representatives, and that the Assembly here (I presume except as before excepted) will omit no measure in their power to prevent such essential injury from being done to the rights and liberties of the people.

" Ordered, that a Committee be appointed to draw up the address and memorials in the said report mentioned, and it is referred to Mr. Attorney, Mr. Richard Henry Lee, Mr. Landon Carter, Mr. Wythe, Mr. Edmund Pendleton, Mr. Benjamin Harrison, Mr. Cary, and Mr. Fleming, to prepare and bring in the same."

On Tuesday, December 18th, after several conferences with the Council, and many alterations in a Committee of the whole House, the address to his Majesty, memorial to the Lords, and memorial to the Commons (which before now was new christened by the name of a remonstrance) were completed, and passed; but to prove that the House was privy to the printed votes mentioned in my former publication, and now said to have come enclosed in the letter herein afore set forth, I beg leave to insert the following clause of the remonstrance:

" It appearing by the printed votes of the House of Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, that in a Committee of the whole House, the 17th day of March last, it was resolved that towards defending, protecting, and securing the British colonies and plantations in America, it may be proper to charge Stamp Duties in the said colonies and plantations; and that it being apprehended that the same subject, which was then declined, may be resumed and further pursued in a succeeding session, the Council and Burgesses of Virginia, met in General Assembly, judge it their indispensable duty, in a respectful manner, but with decent firmness, to remonstrate against such a measure, that at least a cession of those rights, which in their opinion must be infringed by that procedure, may not be inferred from their silence at so important a crisis, &c."

From this undeniable authority, it appears that the letter from the Massachusetts Bay was read in the House of Burgesses on the first day of November, the other on the 7th; so that from these dates, if no earlier (not to mention the conference with his brothers) the Westmoreland Colonel must have had publick and judicial notice " *in what manner the tax was to be laid, and the consequences of it,*" and that at the time he wrote his private address for the deputation, though EARLY in November, he must have been fully convinced of the impropriety of " *traiterously aiding and assisting in the destruction of his country's liberty, and that with parricidal hands he was endeavouring to fasten chains of slavery on this his native country, although like the tenderest and best of mothers she had long fostered and powerfully supported him* *." As to his conduct in the Senate, I really do not recollect it with that certainty I would choose to do to repeat it. All that I can say is, that the motion was consequential to the letters being ordered to lie on the table; and though R. H. Lee may have made the first motion for the address to the Commons, yet I do deny he first proposed the address to his Majesty and memorial to the Lords, for I well remember the late Speaker proposed them when in a Committee of the whole House, as an amendment to the first motion; and his reasons were, " that the meanest subject in the British dominions had a " right to approach the Throne, but that it would be doing " nothing to remonstrate to the Commons, for that the " bill for laying the Stamp Duties would be looked on as " a money bill, against which not even a petition would " be received, nor could any Member be prevailed on to " present it, being so contrary to the rules of Parliament." But admitting R. H. Lee did make the first motion for the memorial to the Commons, which I am sure is the utmost he did do, what does it prove? Can any one person who reads his sophistical piece, and the journals of the House, tell which was prior, his private address for a deputation, or the address to his Majesty? Who can determine the date of the word EARLY? I readily agree I cannot; indeed I despair of finding it out until Col. Mercer arrives. Unless he had returned to England we should have never known of the address, and without his assistance I fear we shall never know the date of it; for the author is too knowing to let conscience give evidence against him. I am also at a loss to know what part the Westmoreland Colonel took in preparing them, or else I would confess it. There were eight Gentlemen (if the Colonel is to be reckoned) appointed a private Committee for to prepare them. They were all very capable, but I have heard, and believe it to be true, that the Westmoreland Colonel prepared the address to his Majesty; *and I can but laugh now to think* how very properly that task was assigned him: A person that had been a Solicitor General for every vacancy in the colony for more than seven years (I mean the youth of his Honour the late Collector of South Potowmack) must certainly be well qualified to prepare addresses; if he was in London, he would be entitled to the freedom of the city, *having served seven years apprenticeship to the science.*

From these circumstances, I hope it appears that R. H. Lee ought not to have said that his application was hasty and without due notice of the impropriety of such a measure, and that the word EARLY is so equivocal that he intended it to impose on the publick; for surely when he appeals to his conduct in the Senate, as receding from HIS EARLY APPLICATION, which he cunningly imputes to ERROUR THE PORTION OF HUMANITY, he ought to have condescended to the dates of these transactions; for at the best but a few days intervened the ADDRESS to his Majesty for a deputation and the ADDRESS against the act. Which was prior I know not, or else would not trust to his telling it. But admitting the latter to be subsequent, yet I think it very imperfect proof to satisfy unprejudiced people that it was a departure from his PRIMARY OBLIGATION, which I take to be self interest; for his ambition always made him restless in his own seat, nothing less than the seat of the good old Speaker could satiate his ambition in the Senate; his relations were always canvassing for the suffrages of the Burgesses, and thought the good old man too long lived. Besides this motive (which is proved by his declaring himself a candidate immediately upon this good man's death, in opposition to the then only candidate Mr. Attorney, whom, according to custom, he loaded with objections, because a placeman) Mr. Addison gives an instance which proves that the conduct in the Senate is not always to be depended on:

SEMP. Let me alone, good Syphax, I'll conceal
My thoughts in passion ('tis the surest way)
I'll bellow out for *liberty*, my *country*,
And mouth at *Stamp Duties*, 'til I shake the house.
Your cold hypocrisy's a stale device,
A worn out trick: Wouldst thou be thought in earnest?
Clothe thy feigned zeal in rage, in fire, in fury!
SYPH. In troth thou'rt able to instruct gray hairs,
And teach the wily African DECEIT.

And yet he depends on this single circumstance to contradict my former publication, wherein I say HIS SENTIMENTS OF THE ACT WERE NOT DISCOVERED UNTIL HE WAS CERTAIN OF HAVING BEEN DISAPPOINTED, but with what justice I hope I have already shown; and I am sure, if this will not serve his turn, he is without any other subterfuge, for he does not pretend to have shown any other dissatisfaction until the burning of the effigy the 24th of September 1765. But though he should go further back, I defy him to date it earlier than the confirmation of Col. Mercer's appointment; for surely he will not pretend to say his hyperbolical can be called an opposition. That such was his conduct every person I hear speak on the subject agrees; his resolutions do not deny it. However, if he did any thing in opposition to it, it certainly must be known to some others besides himself; and therefore, when he exhibits in the gazette again, I hope to hear what, and when it was. But I must inform him it will be very essential to get some creditable person to vouch for him, and also to condescend to some date, and not rely on his favourite words EARLY, and LONG, VERY LONG; for such will not determine the merits of transactions that depend on dates. It is also expected he will let the publick know by what ship his address went, and when she sailed, and whether no other ships sailing before the spring was not the reason of his not writing a duplicate, or whether it may not be owing to custom; and therefore it may not be improper for him to say whether he wrote duplicates of his addresses for the place of Collector of South Potowmack, Deputy Postmaster, Collector of Rappahannock, &c. &c. and that he will assign some good reason for his absence from the Assembly in May 1765, which sat upwards of thirty days, and yet he never attended one hour, though in perfect health, and contrary to his former custom, he usually giving close attendance, for fear the Speaker should die, and he not be there to fill the Chair. Many say it was because some important advices were expected from England about that time, which is not improbable; for the Stamp Act did actually arrive, and occasioned some spirited resolves, which were approved of by all of the new world, except himself. Indeed, to do him justice, I must confess that, after he was sure he was not appointed, he approved of them too; not only so, but was so good natured as not to be angry with his relations in Virginia and Maryland who paid him the compliment of having framed them. A Gentleman of my acquaintance would also be glad to know what he said about these resolves when shown by the late Mr. John Ambler at Capt. Weedon's in Fredericksburg, at June Fair 1765, a few days after they were passed; though Mr. Ambler is since dead, he is to remember some others of that company, besides myself, are yet living. But above all, Mr. Printer, many of your readers are at a loss to know how it was possible that his ADDRESS for a deputation should not arrive in England " UNTIL MANY MONTHS AFTER THE APPOINTMENT " OF A DISTRIBUTOR WAS MADE, AND THE EXECU- " TION OF THE STAMP ACT PREVENTED IN AME- " RICA," notwithstanding he says it was shipped EARLY in November. For my part I am at a loss how to calculate it, as I do not know when to fix the time of the execution of the Stamp Act's being prevented in America; but if I may reckon from the appointment of a Distributor, I suppose that may be ascertained, as I presume it could not be prior to the passage of the act, which I believe was not so early as March 1765. However, admitting it to be March, if we add three months, the fewest that will satisfy the word MANY, it will make it the last of June, which from EARLY in November are eight months: A prodigious voyage indeed, if true! I think he may reap this admonition from it, that he has very bad luck, the fates counteract his industry, and therefore he had better drop all thoughts of a place to support his family, and patiently put down the chariot; for as he has " BUT A SMALL " ESTATE, and A LARGE FAMILY," if he will not be content to live within bounds, some of his noble issue may hereafter be obliged to have recourse to that vile art of a FABER, a blacksmith, or, as a late scurrilous Grecian ignominiously construes it, a CARPENTER, from either of which the community will receive no advantage, unless their mechanical genius should be better than that of their father, who by the effigy he fabricated is generally estimated no higher than a log hauler. But, Mr. Printer, as this transaction (though acknowledged to be an unprecedented piece of scurrility) seems to be relied on by the Colonel in private, and his scandalous slanderers, his auxiliaries in publick, as necessary to prevent the country from ruin, it may not be amiss to inquire whether he was influenced by

* *Vide R. H. Lee's dying Speech.*

such laudable motives, or, as I insist, by envy and malice. What are the secret thoughts of the heart nothing but divinity can know, but, if I may appeal to outward actions, surely I am right in saying he was not influenced by the good of his country; for all Virginia will readily agree with me when I say they wanted no such scandalous invitations to guard their country from ruin. An opposition was determined in Virginia long before the 24th of September, without the assistance of the Westmoreland Colonel, who until then had kept aloof. It was universally known now Col Mercer came to so disagreeable an appointment, and his friends, from their former knowledge of him, were sure he would readily resign his commission upon his arrival; his nearest relations also undertook for him; my father and myself wrote to him to resign, and lodged our letters with Mr. Royle in Williamsburg (I believe about the middle of July) to be delivered to him so soon as he should arrive (which I presume some of Mr. Royle's assistants yet remember) nothing doubting but that he would credit and be advised by us in that affair sooner than by strangers, who were no ways interested in his reputation.

I do not know a county in Virginia, out of fifty four except Westmoreland, Prince William, and Loudoun that took these steps to wound Col. Mercer's reputation. It is true that two of the Lees fill the highest military commissions in Prince William and Loudoun, but, to do them justice, I do not hear they promoted this scurrility; indeed I blame not any concerned in either of these, for in Prince William it was early in the year, and it was founded on a report that Col. Mercer was arrived, and intended to act under his commission; and the latter was to deter a Gentleman from accepting a deputation which the people of that county had been most untruly informed he had solicited by letters to my father and self. I presume I need not reckon in the number an effigy that was hung up at King William court-house, as it was intended for a stranger then at that place, whom the people understood was a Deputy; not to mention the little sanction given it by the Gentlemen of the county, it being only the fruits of the leisure hours of some prisoners who were within the bounds. But supposing a sacrifice in effigy was necessary, can a dying speech be justified, especially one that reflects on Colonel Mercer in his private more than publick capacity; and that too, together with the effigy, wholly prepared by a man who had solicited the office himself? If the author's damned errour, or rather "LOVE OF GOLD, HAD LED "HIM ASTRAY FROM HONOUR, VIRTUE, AND PA-"TRIOTISM*," against manifest conviction, was it not the portion of HUMANITY to suppose Col. Mercer had also erred, and that too without the least suspicion of the impropriety of the office, having only accepted it. If the people of Westmoreland were of such lethargick, pusillanimous, and base dispositions (which I cannot suspect) as to require a sacrifice in effigy to invite them to contribute to the preservation of their freedom, where was the necessity of a dying speech? And if necessary then, why was it to be recorded in the Maryland Gazette? Was the publication intended for the benefit of Maryland, or Virginia? For Maryland it was certainly unnecessary, and for Virginia no less so; for I presume there are not more than fifty in the whole colony that subscribe to that gazette. However, be they more or less, it will be agreed, even by himself, that they are only the most sensible and intelligent who did not require the aid of his scurrility and forgery to convince them of the impropriety of the Stamp Act. From this I hope it appears he could intend no good to his country from so scandalous a step. If he did not, some villainous motive must have spurred him on; and what less could it be than envy and and ambition! In need the latter is proved by the same gazette, for there he finds out a new, but not ready, conveyance to Williamsburg. Common complaisance might have informed him that a correspondent [illegible] much less degree than his Governour ought to have seen the letter from the Justices of Westmoreland (which, not to rob the Gentleman of the merit of, I shall call his) before it was published in the Maryland Gazette; but truly if that piece had not got recorded, the Westmoreland Proteus would have been deprived of a favourite piece of apparel.

Mr. Printer, I have already taken more than my share of your paper, but I hope your readers will pardon me for pursuing this subject a little further; for as to many pieces have been published in my absence (which have increased in scurrility, because the authors ran no risk of punishment, either from the censure of the publick or myself, as they did not choose to discover themselves) containing false insinuations in support of their hero, for the truth of which they appeal to my knowledge, which though small (as they say) must necessarily be privy to some part of his so very conspicuous merit; it will certainly be improper for me to be silent, as such would be construed into a confession, than which nothing can be further from my sentiments. I readily confess that when I first took my seat in the House of Burgesses I had a very good opinion of their hero, but indeed I can with truth say that I altered my sentiments LONG, very LONG, before I knew my brother was Distributor of Stamps, which at the least is prior to every prejudice against him on that account. I soon found him hot, violent, and supercilious, in party; very tenacious of his opinion; and too great a slave to his ambition and desire for the Chair. He was, and yet is, very happy in FACE, and good in expression; as such many petitions went through his hands, and for this poor compliment he was always true to the petition, good or bad. Indeed I never knew him give up one; and certainly some, of a great number, ought not to have been insisted on. In short, Mr. Printer, I could give the publick many instances which would reflect no honour on this Gentleman as a Senator; but as I am prescribed by the length of your paper, I shall confine myself to one, which will at the least convince the world that he is much affected with that damned disorder of the heart which the political Doctors call the *auri sacra fames*, even to such a malignant degree that the effigy catched it from him.

In January 1764 the Assembly was suddenly convened, in consequence of some instruction then lately received from England. The session was so bad that very few Members attended, I believe under forty; and the business so short, that the House sat not more than ten days. According to custom a bill was pasted by the House for paying the Burgesses wages out of the Treasury, but the wages being fifteen shillings, instead of ten, the Council refused their concurrence, and the bill dropped; by which the Burgesses were entitled to be paid by their respective counties (under an old act passed in the fourth year of her late Majesty Queen Anne, now sixty one years old) after the rate of 130 lbs. of tobacco per day. This Senator (who never missed a session until May 1765, as before observed) and his colleague, were two of the few that attended that short session, and were entitled to be paid by their counties. I must here observe that as some Members give better attendance on the House than others, and as the counties of the absenting Members receive a mutual benefit from the laws passed with the counties whose Members make them, it has long been thought unreasonable to levy the tobacco on the counties; and accordingly, though a bill for paying the wages out of the publick fund should miscarry, by which it cannot be re-enacted the same session, it is always made part of the next bill. Agreeable to this practice, in the next session, October after, a bill was ordered to be brought in for the payment of the Burgesses wages of the then session at fifteen shillings per day; and then, agreeable to the rules of the House, a motion was made that the Committee should be directed to receive a clause for the payment of the wages of the session in January. But truly this patriotick and generous Senator was entitled to receive from his county, if tobacco was worth fourteen shillings, eleven pounds sixteen shillings and eight pence, but if paid out of the Treasury at fifteen shillings per day only nine pounds fifteen shillings, so here was a prospect of gaining two pounds one shilling and six pence to himself, and as much to his colleague, which he would not forego, though it would cost his constituents a penny three farthings per poll, supposing them at 3000, when in fact it would not have cost them a farthing if paid out of the Treasury, and therefore he (and his colleague of course) opposed the motion with great warmth, notwithstanding they were apprised that a penny three farthings, when added to 46 lbs. of tobacco, the amount of the publick levy per poll, would be grievous to many poor people in their county. However, this act at last passed with this clause; but whether the Burgesses of Westmoreland were paid by their county, I know not; but if they were, it was wrong.

From these circumstances, Mr. Printer, I hope it does appear that the publick has formed a wrong opinion of the Westmoreland Colonel, that is, supposing it to be such as his anonymous auxiliaries say it is; and that the dying speech, being founded on his single testimony, ought to be reversed and annulled, and then Col. Mercer's character will stand unimpeached even from a youth until now: For though he entered into the army at eighteen, and has continued to act in a publick capacity ever since, from Georgia to Cape Breton while in America, and for three years past in Europe, I never heard him reflected on by a single person prior to his being Stampmaster; but on the contrary, I have among his papers letters from numberless sensible correspondents, from one end of the British America to the other, among which are those from the most honourable in every province he was in, and even from the General down to the merchant, which express the highest approbation of [illegible] an acquaintance. The success [illegible] in E[illegible]e is no secret on this side the A[illegible] ral re[illegible]es it unnecessary for me to [illegible] that sub[illegible] indeed I would not have sa[illegible] I have, but that they are such known truths to many in this colony that if any one should be so hardy as to deny them I can prove them. But I shall not regard any slanderer who shall be afraid of showing himself, nor would I now take any notice of that infamous and scurrilous dastard who dates his scandal from Stafford, but that he arms himself with the Stamp Act, the only weapon Colonel Mercer can be wounded with. This scoundrel says "*that Col. Mercer knew the sentiments of* "*his country as to the propriety of the act; that he heard* "*while at the Court of Britain of the address, remonstran-*"*ces, and even spirited resolutions of the Assembly; and* "*that he came into his country armed in full with all his* "*boxes of baleful execution, and continued his design to his* "*ne plus ultra.*" The bare repetition of these falsities, Mr. Printer, convinces me that this piece, [illegible]d of Stafford, ought to be dated from *Chantelle in Westmoreland*, the archives of which contain the dying speech, and many such like pieces, among the other *atchievements* of its noble proprietor. But to convince the publick how true these malicious observations are, I dare say I need only refer them to the following declaration, which Colonel Mercer gave from under his hand at the time of his resignation, which at the least is as high an authority as the Westmoreland Colonel's piece, which all his auxiliaries rely on so much; but, with some other circumstances, I believe it will convince every unprejudiced person how little this slanderer regards the truth.

"Gentlemen, I have met you agreeable to yesterday's "promise, to give my country some assurances which I "would have been glad I could with any tolerable pro-"priety have done sooner.

"I flatter myself no judicious man can blame me for "accepting an office under an authority that was never "disputed by any from whom I could be advised of the "propriety or weight of the objections. I do acknowledge "that some little time before I left England I heard of, "and saw, some resolves which were said to be made by "the House of Burgesses of Virginia; but as the authen-"ticity of them was disputed, they never appearing but "in private hands, and so often and differently explained "to me, I determined to know the real sentiments of my "countrymen from themselves: And I am concerned to "say that those sentiments were so suddenly and unex-"pectedly communicated to me that I was altogether un-"prepared to give an immediate answer upon so important "a point; for in however unpopular a light I may lately "have been viewed, and notwithstanding the many in-"sults I have from this day's conversation been informed "were offered me in effigy in many parts of the colony, "yet I still flatter myself that time will justify me, and "that my conduct may not be condemned after being "coolly inquired into.

"The commission so very disagreeable to my country-"men was solely obtained by the genteel recommendation "of their Representatives in General Assembly, unasked "for; and though this is contradictory to publick report, "which I am told charges me with assisting the passage "of the Stamp Act; upon the promise of the commission "in this colony, yet I hope it will meet with credit, "when I assure you I was so far from assisting it, or hav-"ing any previous promise from the Ministry, that I did "not know of my appointment until some time after my "return from Ireland, where I was at the commencement "of the session of Parliament, and for a long time after "the act had passed.

"Thus, Gentlemen, am I circumstanced. I should "be glad to act now in such a manner as would justify "me to my friends and countrymen here, and the autho-"rity which appointed me; but the time you have allotted "me for my answer is so very short that I have not yet "been able to discover that happy medium, therefore must "intreat you to be referred to my future conduct, with "this assurance in the mean-time that I will not, directly "or indirectly, by myself or deputies, proceed in the ex-"ecution of the act until I receive further orders from "England, and not then without the assent of the Ge-"neral Assembly of this colony; and that no man can "more ardently and sincerely wish the prosperity thereof, "or is more desirous of securing all its just rights and "privileges, than, Gentlemen, your sincere friend, and "obliged humble servant,

GEORGE MERCER."

The circumstances that I would appeal to on this occasion are, that though eleven months are elapsed since this was published, yet his sworn enemy the Westmoreland Colonel, nor any of his auxiliaries, have yet been able to contradict it; and as Col. Mercer generously acknowledged his seeing the resolves of the House of Burgesses, when it never could have been known but from himself, nor even presumed (as the earliest accounts of the disturbances here did not reach Britain until a month after he sailed) no honest man can presume but that if he had seen the ADDRESSES and REMONSTRANCES he would also have confessed it. As I hope for salvation, I do most solemnly declare that he never informed me he had; and from his letters from England (which many Gentlemen have seen, and any honest man may now see) and his most private conversation after he arrived, I do not believe he ever heard of them, or any other advices than what are above mentioned. And I do as solemnly declare that they were not of authenticity; they are not those that now remain on the journals of the House, but I believe were the first that passed, and were receded from the next day. There are but five resolves upon the journals, and his manuscript (which I understand a merchant gave him on Change) contained seven. If it was not of too private a nature, I could here add a circumstance that would sufficiently justify Colonel Mercer in saying THAT THEIR AUTHENTICITY WAS DISPUTED. Colonel Mercer and myself have both mentioned it to some friends, but I cannot think it proper for a news paper. But can any one believe that if Col. Mercer had known the sentiments of the people of Virginia he would have parted with the ship bound to York within 12 miles of Williamsburg, and have landed at Hampton, to run the risk of the attack of every rascal on his way by land? I believe I may say No! but on the contrary that the opposition was not suspected, and Col. Mercer was afraid he should not arrive in time, and was very uneasy upon that account through the whole voyage. In this I do not desire to be credited, as I have more disinterested evidences of so material a fact. Captain Anderson, master of the ship he came in, and three passengers now in this town, have often told me so. Besides these, there are many other passengers in the country, particularly the Reverend Mr. Thruston of Glocester, and the Reverend Mr. Dade of Fairfax, of whom the Westmoreland Colonel may inquire.

Mr. Printer, I intended to [illegible] here; but as I presume the publick will be soon furnished with an apology from the Westmoreland Colonel, I cannot dismiss him without a caution, well expressed in the following lines of a late modern writer:

RICHARD stand forth, I dare thee to be try'd
In that great court where conscience must preside;
At that most solemn bar hold up thy hand,
Think before whom, on what account, you stand;
Speak, but consider well, from first to last
Review thy life, weigh every action past.
Can'st thou remember, from thy earliest youth,
(And as thy God must judge thee speak the truth)
A single instance where self laid aside,
And justice taking place of fear and PRIDE,
Thou with an equal eye did'st GENIUS view,
And give to merit what was merit's due?
GENIUS and MERIT are a sure offence,
And thy soul sickens at the name of sense.
Is any one so lucky to succeed,
On ENVY's altar he is sure to bleed;
RICHARD, with guilty pleasure in his eyes,
The place of executioner supplies.

I am, Sir, your very humble servant,

JAMES MERCER,

An ENEMY to HYPOCRISY.

NEW YORK, *September* 11.

ON Monday last his Excellency Sir Henry Moore, Bart. left Albany for Crown Point, having before he set out been pleased to send a reprieve to the sheriff of Dutchess county, respiting the execution of William Pendergast, until his Majesty's pleasure should be known. After his Excellency's departure, his truly worthy and charitable Lady procured a list of the poor prisoners in Albany gaol, and deposited money to discharge all those who were confined for sums less than 30 l. whereby several prisoners obtained their liberty, and were restored to their helpless families.

She also ordered a daily provision for the rest of the prisoners who still remained confined, and several other captives and poor persons have experienced her humanity and goodness.

☞ *Mr. Grymes's piece, Mr. Wayles's reply, and some others, will be inserted in our next.*

* *Vide dying speech.*

To be LET *on* CHARTER, *for* EUROPE,

THE ſnow *Nancy*, *John Ardis* maſter, now lying at *Norfolk*, a new veſſel, burthen about two hundred and ſeventy hogſheads. Apply to the ſubſcriber, who has for ſale a quantity of *Barbados* RUM, and muſcovado SUGAR.

JOHN GREENWOOD.

NORFOLK, *September* 22, 1766.

To be SOLD, *on* Monday *the* 13*th of next month*, *at publick vendue*,

THE LANDS advertiſed by JOHN HOLLOWELL, in the Gazettes of *July* and *Auguſt* laſt. As I find, ſince the ſaid *John Hollowell* gave me deeds for the above mentioned land, that there is a mortgage on it, prior to my deeds, for a conſiderable ſum of money, and it is poſſible there may be deeds alſo prior to mine, I now give this publick notice that the purchaſe money, or as much as will pay my demands againſt him, is to be placed by me to his credit; and that if the title I ſell by, which is deeds from him the ſaid *Hollowell*, ſhould not prove to be a good one, as he warrants to me, that the purchaſer of ſaid land is to look to ſaid *Hollowell* for the purchaſe money, or any other demands they may have on account of ſuch deeds not being as warranted to me, as I will not refund any money paid me for ſaid lands. I have been told that the ſaid land is entailed. Mr. *Hollowell*, for his own intereſt, ought to clear that matter up at the day of ſale.

JOSEPH CALVERT.

NORFOLK, *Sept.* 24, 1766.

STrayed from Col. *John Willis*'s, in *Brunſwick*, ſome time in *July* laſt, a large half-blooded bay mare, with a blaze face, ſome white feet, branded on the near buttock WH, but not dockt. Whoever will contrive the ſaid MARE to Col. *Seth Ward* in *Cheſterfield*, or the ſubſcriber in *Cumberland*, ſhall have 30 s. reward.

RICHARD JAMES.

TAKEN up, in *Southampton*, a dark bay mare, about 4 feet 5 inches high, with a bob tail, trots very well, no brand perceivable, except a white ſtreak on her withers, as if occaſioned by a rope or collar; poſted, and appraiſed to 5 l.

WATSON GRAY.

TAKEN up, in *Bedford*, a light gray horſe, about 4 feet 7 inches high, pretty much flea-bitten, has a roach noſe, his tail ſeems to have been bobbed, but partly grown out again, has been much abuſed by work, which appears to have been done in a waggon, and branded on the near ſhoulder reſembling OH in a piece; poſted, and appraiſed to 8 l.

HUGH CHALLES.

TAKEN up, in *Suſſex*, a bay horſe colt, about 4 feet 3 inches high, appears to be about two years old, but neither dockt nor branded; poſted, and appraiſed to 40 s.

TABITHA ROLAND.

TAKEN up, in *Suſſex*, a bay horſe, about 4 feet 8 or 9 inches high, about 12 or 13 years old, with a ſtar in his forehead, a hanging mane and ſwitch tail, branded on the near buttock O, and had a ſmall bell on; poſted, and appraiſed to 6 l.

THOMAS HUNT.

TAKEN up, in *Dinwiddie*, a light gray mare, about 4 feet 4 inches high, with a long mane and ſwitch tail, paces ſlow, trots high and hard, ſhod before, had a bell on, and branded on the near ſhoulder and buttock OO one above another, and in a piece; poſted, and appraiſed to 3 l.

LEWIS LANIER.

TAKEN up, in *Goochland*, a forrel mare, about 3 or 4 years old, with a large ſtar in her forehead, which comes down her face in a kind of blaze, a hanging mane and ſwitch tail, and branded on the near buttock L; alſo a gray horſe, about 4 or 5 years old, about 4 feet 8 or 9 inches high, with a hanging mane and ſwitch tail, and branded on the near buttock NA; poſted and appraiſed, the mare to 3 l. and the horſe to 12 l.

JOHN LEWIS.

TAKEN up, in *Albemarle*, a black mare, about 4 feet 7 or 8 inches high, about 8 or 9 years old, a natural pacer, with ſome white hairs in her face, ſome white about her hind footlock, and branded on the near buttock ITS; alſo a bay mare, about 4 feet 7 or 8 inches high, about 4 or 5 years old, with a ſnip on her noſe, a white ſpot on the ſide of her jaw, a ſtar in her face, roached mane and bob tail, hind feet white, and branded on the near ſhoulder and buttock ID: HD; poſted and appraiſed, the black mare to 12 l. and the bay mare to 10 l.

WILLIAM MELTON.

RICHMOND, SEPTEMBER 12, 1766.

AS I intend for BRITAIN immediately after next General Court, I muſt beg the favour of thoſe indebted to me to diſcharge their balances, as it is not convenient to give further indulgence. I have put my affairs under the management of Mr. *David Roſs* of *Goochland* county, with full power to tranſact every matter for me in this country. Thoſe who have any demands againſt me are deſired to bring in their accounts, and receive payment.

ALEXANDER BAINE.

To be SOLD, *by way of lottery*, *at my vendue houſe*, *in* Norfolk, *on the* 15*th of this inſtant*,

SUNDRY Millinery Goods, to the amount of 78 l. freſh made up, and in the neweſt faſhion; conſiſting of two ſuits of thread lace, at 10 s. a yard, two ſuits of blond lace, at 7 s. a yard, two ſuits of gauze, ſome laced caps, three lots of cambrick, a variety of caps and fillets, to the amount of 25 l 6 s. with many other articles. Tickets at 5 s. each, to be had of Mrs. *King* at Capt. *Daniel Hutchings*'s, or

JOSEPH CALVERT.

102 Prizes.
202 Blanks.

304 tickets, at 5 s. £. 76-0-0

LANCASTER, SEPTEMBER 1, 1766.

IF any perſon will inform me where I may get a box of GOODS, marked TE in piece, and E, N° 1, imported laſt ſpring in the *Lord Baltimore*, Capt. *Mitchell*, and ſaid to be landed ſomewhere on *Corotoman*, it ſhall be gratefully acknowledged by

THOMAS EDWARDS.

Sold at John Greenhow's *ſtore*, *near the Church*, *in* Williamſburg, *for ready money only*,

FINE blankets, bed bunts, bed and ſtay ticking, curled hair for matraſſes, bed ſcrews and keys, cottons, half thicks, green and blue emboſſed lincey rugs, &c. ſugar, tea at 8 s. a pound, genuine freſh drugs, wholeſale or retail, rice, ſago, ſalop, barley, currants, ſweetmeats, all ſorts of ſpices, wine by the bottle, gallon, or caſk, myrtle wax, ſoap, coffee, chocolate, borax, ſpelter, all ſorts of poliſhing powders, Turkey oilſtones and ſlips, ragſtones, ſithes and ſtones, iron Dutch ovens and ſkillets, ſalamanders, iron dogs, backs, mortars and peſtles, and all ſorts of caſt iron, buckles and braſſes for harneſs, chair and cart wheel boxes of all ſizes, Canadian beaver trap and vermin traps, cotton, wool, and clothiers cards, hemp and flax hatchels, weavers ſlays of moſt numbers, chapes and tongs for ſhoe and knee buckles, watch cryſtal main and pendulum ſprings, wire, draw plates, ſcrew plates of all ſizes, and moſt kinds of tools for ſilverſmiths, watchmakers, carpenters, coopers, blackſmiths, and moſt ſorts of materials for tradeſmen, linens of moſt ſorts and fineneſs, indigo, redwood, common and fine paints, oils, pencils, bruſhes, levigating ſtones, half gallon caſe bottles, wide mouth bottles, ſets of ſurveying inſtruments, ſeine corks, grindſtones, hand millſtones, moſt ſorts of pewter, tin, copper, china, glaſs, ſtone, and earthen ware, bed and cloſeſtool pans, toys, violins, Roman ſtrings, clock ſtrings, window glaſs of moſt ſizes, locks, nails, hinges of all ſorts, lamps, candleſticks, hour glaſſes, convex and concave ſpectakles, green, blue, and purple preſervers, various ſorts of ſtationary, ſearch and ſifter bottoms, inſtruments for drawing teeth, lancets, lampblack, ivory, blue, trainoil, tar, turpentine, roſin, and ſeveral hundred other uſeful articles.

On the [illegible] *day of* [illegible] *will be* SOLD, *at publick ſale*, *to the higheſt bidder*, *for ready money*, *bills of exchange*, *or ſhort credit*,

A NEW SHIP, of about 170 tuns burthen, well calculated for *European* or *Weſt India* trade, and built with the beſt white oak, complete, and ready for launching; alſo the ſail cloth and rigging intended for ſaid ſhip. Any perſon inclinable to purchaſe privately, between this and the day of ſale, may know the terms by applying to the ſubſcribers in *Norfolk*.

JOHN WILSON
JAMES CAMPBELL,
Adminiſtrators of *William Irving*, dec.

To be SOLD *to the higheſt bidder*, *at* Cumberland *court-houſe*, *on* Monday *the* 24*th of* November *next*, *being court day*,

ABOUT 800 acres of good land, lying in the ſaid county, convenient to church, court, and mill, and in good order for cropping, there being freſh cleared ground for about twelve hands, with ſufficient tobacco houſes, and ſundry other houſes. Eighteen months credit will be allowed the purchaſer, and the land may be entered upon immediately, giving bond and ſecurity to

JAMES M'DOWALL.
RALPH BOWKER.

TAKEN up, in *Brunſwick*, a bay mare, about 4 feet 4 or 5 inches high, with a blaze in her face, and branded on the near buttock F; poſted, and appraiſed to 40 s.

JOHN COLLIER.

BUCKINGHAM, SEPTEMBER 1, 1766.

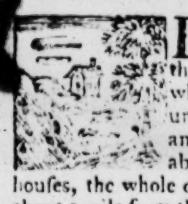
TAKEN up at the ſubſcriber's plantation, on *George*'s creek, a light bay mare, 4 feet 2 or 3 inches high, branded on the near ſhoulder G or C, and on the near buttock with a C, her left hind and her right fore footlocks are white, has a blazed face, ſeveral ſaddle ſpots, and hath been docked. The owner may have her on application to the overſeer of that place.

ROBERT BOLLING, Jun.

TAKEN up, in *King* and *Queen*, a ſmall bay mare, with a ſtar in her forehead, hanging mane and ſprig tail, her hind feet white, paces pretty well, and branded on the near buttock I; poſted, and appraiſed to 4 l.

ROBERT BROOKING.

To be SOLD, *altogether or in parcels*,



ELEVEN hundred acres of LAND, lying in *Southampton* county, on the main *Blackwater* and *Cypreſs* ſwamps, whereon is a dwelling-houſe 40 by 18, underpinned with brick, brick chimnies, and a paſſage; a good kitchen, planked above and below, and all convenient outhouſes, the whole quite new; alſo a new framed houſe, about a mile from the others, which may occaſionally ſerve as an overſeer's houſe. There is on the ſaid plantation a good garden well paled in, 300 or upwards of the beſt bearing apple trees, 400 peach trees, and a nurſery of about 3000 apple trees of the beſt fruit, a peach nurſery of about 2000 trees, and a variety of the beſt cherries, pears, and plums. The land is well timbered, and produces good tobacco, wheat, &c. and enough cleared for about ten hands. Any perſon inclinable to purchaſe may know the terms, which will be made eaſy to the purchaſer, by applying to the ſubſcriber in *Iſle of Wight* county, near *Hardy*'s ferry.

WILLIAM HAYNES.

To be SOLD,

A TRACT of LAND containing upwards of 1000 acres, lying upon *Gravelly Run*, in the county of *Dinwiddie*, about 10 miles from *Peterſburg*, convenient to church, court, and mills, and is eſteemed an excellent ſoil for any kind of grain, and ſome parts for tobacco. Any perſon inclinable to purchaſe may know the terms by applying to Mr. *James Belſches* at *Cabin Point*, or to me in *Suſſex* county.

Tf AUGUSTINE CLAIBORNE.

On Tueſday *the* 7*th of* October *will be SOLD to the higheſt bidders*, *at the* Rocky Ridge, *in* Cheſterfield *county*,

THIRTY choice SLAVES, conſiſting of men, women, and children; among which are ſeveral TRADESMEN. The purchaſers will be allowed two years credit, or longer if required, giving bond and good ſecurity.

N. B. Five per cent. diſcount will be allowed for ready money.

To be SOLD *to the higheſt bidders*, *at* Richmond *town*, *on* Monday *the* 6*th of* October *next*, *being* Henrico *court day*,

A LOT in the ſaid town, near *Shockoe* creek, with a good convenient dwelling-houſe with four rooms on the lower floor, and ſeveral out houſes, a valuable *Virginia* born Negro woman and child, a horſe, and ſome houſehold furniture; by virtue of a deed of truſt made to us by Mr. *Robert Elliott*. Six months credit will be allowed, the purchaſers giving bond and ſecurity to

6 ALEXANDER M'CAUL.
JOHN PRIDE, Jun.

For SALE, *by the ſubſcriber at* Norfolk,

CHOICE *Barbados* RUM, at 12 s. 9 d. a gallon.

Tf JOHN TUCKER.

To be SOLD *for tobacco*, *bills of exchange*, *caſh*, *or ſhort credit*,

FOUR LOTS in *Hanover* town, whereon I lately lived, which rent at preſent for 75 l. annually. Any perſon inclinable to purchaſe any, or the whole of the above lots, may know the terms by applying to Mr. *Alexander Donald* in ſaid town, or to me in *Caroline* county, at *New Flanders*.

10 WILLIAM DUDLEY.

Scheme of a Lottery

FOR diſpoſing of 146 lots of LAND, in the town of *Hanover*, yet remaining unſold.—The leaſt valuable of the lots, according to the prices of thoſe moſt remote from the water, which have been ſold, not being leſs than 20 l. which is far below a medium between that ſum and what was given for ſeveral near the water, the unſold lots are rated at 30 l. each, accounting 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, on which *Page*'s warehouſes ſtand, one lot; and 24, 35, 36, 47, 48, 49, on which *Crutchfield*'s warehouſes ſtand, one other lot only, ſo that there will be but 137 lots in the whole to be drawn for; and it is propoſed that there ſhall be no more than that number of chances, and conſequently no blanks. The conſideration money will not be required of Gentlemen willing to become adventurers, and ſubſcribing to the ſcheme, until *April* next; when it is to be paid to the proprietor at *Williamſburg*, either in caſh, or 3000 wt. of tobacco. The drawing will be ſoon after the ſubſcription ſhall be completed, of which notice ſhall be given in the *Virginia* Gazette. *Robert Carter Nicholas*, *George Wythe*, *Thomas Everard*, *John Thompſon*, and *Jerman Baker*, Eſquires, will be managers of the lottery, or any three of them.

Tf MANN PAGE.

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